



## quarterly news

The following publications are available upon request:

- Patterns of Global Terrorism
- Supporting Human Rights and Democracy
- Trafficking in Persons Report
- Consular Notification and Access
- IGA: Working with State and Local Governments
- Key Officers of Foreign Service Posts
- U.S. Department of State: A Guide to Doing Business
- Country Background Notes
- Travel Tips for Students
- Travel Warnings



Summer/Fall 2006

**Message from the Director**

Five years have passed since September 11, 2001. Since then, the War on Terror has taken America and its all-volunteer military into new frontiers.

Our country's Reserve and National Guard forces play a major role in America's effort to protect our homeland. The War on Terror is largely being fought by everyday people – people we work and socialize with, our neighbors, and our friends.

Since 2005, the Department of State and the Department of Defense have led many U.S. governors on tours of Iraq and Afghanistan. These trips allow governors to visit troops from their states and get a better understanding of what the front line of freedom is like. So far, 30 governors have made the trek.

It's clear from these trips that we must stay the course. It's also evident that our troops feel the same way. I cannot recall one instance of a governor being told by a soldier that he or she wanted to leave Iraq or Afghanistan. Every soldier that I have met has been proud to serve. It's hot, dusty, exhausting work, but our troops believe that they are making a difference and know they are helping to keep their loved ones safe at home in the United States.

Each time Afghan President Hamid Karzai met with our governors, he asked that America not leave his country. He also asked the governors to go home and tell their constituents about the difference that America is making in his country. During our visits, President Karzai reminds us that girls in his country can now go to school and women can vote. He tells us about how difficult life was under the Taliban. He thanks us for our support and tells us that Afghanistan's continued progress would not be possible without us.

Along the way, there have been many unexpected adventures and touching moments. For the 30 governors who have made the journey to the Middle East and South Asia, it's easy to see that their lives have been changed forever.

After four of these trips, I know that I have been touched. The most lasting memory for me came on a 110-degree Saturday, watching Governor Mitch Daniels of Indiana pin a purple heart onto a soldier who had been shot several months earlier. He had been given the option to return home after the injury, but he wanted to stay and continue the fight. Unfortunately, two months later, a sniper shot him as he was trying to save someone else's life; this brave American didn't make it.

Building Democracies is difficult work. But when you set foot onto the soil of these evolving nations you see the difference the coalition is making, you realize how truly wealthy America is and what a moral and ethical responsibility we have to assist those who are less fortunate. Thirty American governors have now experienced this same abject poverty and understand as well.

This newsletter is dedicated to the memories of those trips.

*Anthony Welcher, Director, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs*



## International Focus: DARFUR

The recent signing of the Darfur Peace Agreement is another step toward reconciliation and peace in Sudan. Though violence and genocide have affected millions of Sudanese, support from the United States and the international community is helping the Central African nation begin to rebuild.

After nearly two years of negotiations, the Darfur Peace Agreement was signed in Abuja, Nigeria on May 5, 2006. According to Assistant Secretary for African Affairs Jendayi Frazer, "U.S. intervention played a decisive role in supporting an African-led negotiation to achieve peace." Assistant Secretary Frazer and Deputy Secretary of State Robert Zoellick attended the peace talks, during which the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement, the largest rebel group, met and signed a comprehensive peace agreement with the Sudanese Government.

A substantial amount of the work to alleviate the situation in Darfur has been undertaken by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). USAID has provided support funds to aid in the peace process, stabilize Sudan's government, and rebuild its war- and famine-ravaged economy. In FY 2005, the value of all USAID contributions (including food) to Sudan totaled more than \$855 million.

In September 2004, then Secretary of State Colin Powell officially described the conditions in Darfur as "genocide." The United States is still the only nation to describe the situation as



such. Along with hundreds of millions of dollars in food aid and peacekeeping support, the State Department has undertaken a \$16.4 million dollar humanitarian campaign aimed at stopping the murder of innocent civilians as well as torture and sexual crimes. While engaged in this campaign, the United States will continue to push Sudan to take action against rapists and prevent violence against women.

U.S. involvement in Sudan does not end with the signing of the Darfur Peace Agreement. The ultimate goal of a peaceful, autonomous Sudan will require the participation of the Sudanese people. The Darfur Peace Agreement is a small step down the path toward the goal of ending genocide and violence in Darfur. ■

### Major Events in Sudan





## Governors Go Global

**U**.S. Governors are going the extra mile (or miles!) to support American servicemen and women on the frontlines of the War on Terror. Since February 2004, thirty governors have joined troops in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait, and other countries to get a first-person look at the fight for freedom. We salute these governors as they salute our troops.

Mississippi Governor Haley Barbour

Louisiana Governor Kathleen Blanco

Missouri Governor Matt Blunt

Tennessee Governor Phil Bredesen

Florida Governor Jeb Bush

Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels

Vermont Governor Jim Douglas

Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle

Wyoming Governor David Freudenthal

Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm

Nevada Governor Kenny Guinn

Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry

North Dakota Governor John Hoeven

Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee

Virginia Governor Tim Kaine

Idaho Governor Dirk Kempthorne

Oregon Governor Ted Kulongowski

Hawaii Governor Linda Lingle

West Virginia Governor Joe Manchin

Alaska Governor Frank Murkowski

Colorado Governor Bill Owens

New York Governor George Pataki

Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty

Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue

Texas Governor Rick Perry

Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney

South Carolina Governor Mark Sanford

Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer

Kansas Governor Kathleen Sebelius

Iowa Governor Tom Vilsack





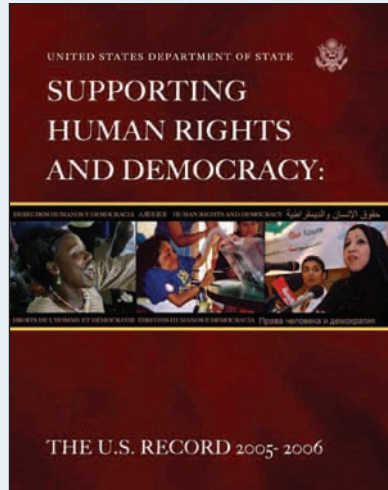


## REVEALING OUR ACTIONS: *America's Contributions to Human Rights and Freedom*

Every day, State Department and other federal employees are working to insure basic human freedoms for people around the world. Many of America's accomplishments are chronicled in two State Department reports: *Supporting Human Rights & Democracy: The U.S. Record 2005 -2006* and *Trafficking in Persons Report, 2006*. Both reports are recently updated and are available online. Hard copies can be obtained by contacting the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs.

### What is America Doing to Support Human Rights?

The United States applies a wide range of diplomatic tools under the banner of human rights. *Supporting Human Rights & Democracy: The U.S. Record 2005-2006* summarizes our strategy in every region of the world, and describes how we have supported reform efforts in 95 countries over the past year. With U.S. assistance, people around the globe embraced democratic principles in dramatic ways, including historic free elections in Iraq, Afghanistan, Liberia, Haiti and Indonesia. In the last fiscal year, the United States budgeted \$1.4 billion for human rights and democracy programming.



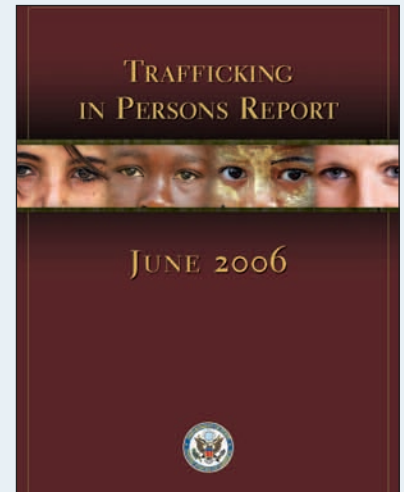
At the same time, we stood in solidarity with brave men and women around the world who were persecuted by repressive regimes for exercising their basic rights. By on-the-ground interaction with government officials, civil society organizations and individuals, and through multilateral engagement on the regional and global levels, we defended international human rights standards and advanced democratic principles. We also continued to bring economic sanctions on systematic human rights violators like the Burmese and Cuban regimes.

### What is America Doing to Stop Human Trafficking?

The U.S. government has spent \$400 million dollars to end trafficking, which is a form of modern-day slavery. This evil practice claims as many as 800,000 victims worldwide – half of them children. The U.S. Government is leading the world in ending this crisis:

- **The Department of Justice** has tripled the number of trafficking convictions in the past several years.
- **The Department of Health and Human Services** is reaching out more aggressively to identify and support victims.
- **The Department of State** is working with international partners to secure freedom for those who are exploited and enslaved.

We also call on governments to more effectively prosecute those who exploit. In Pakistan, the Anti-Trafficking Unit (ATU) became fully functional, resulting in an increase in arrests and prosecutions of human traffickers. Cooperative efforts between the Pakistani military, ATU, and international organizations prevented an increase in human trafficking following the devastating October 8, 2005 earthquake. ■



### How Can I Learn More?

*Supporting Human Rights & Democracy: The U.S. Record 2005 - 2006* is produced by the State Department's Bureau of Democracy Human Rights & Labor. Visit: <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/shrd/2005/>

*Trafficking in Persons Report, 2006* is produced by the State Department's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons. Visit: <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/index.htm>



## U.S. Elected Officials Abroad

### May 2006

**Senegal, Ghana, South Africa:** Washington, DC Mayor Anthony Williams led trade mission.

**Japan:** Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm led investment mission.

### June 2006

**Czech Republic, Poland:** Delegates from the Eastern Trade Council visited.

**Japan, South Korea:** Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels led a trade mission.

**Taiwan:** North Dakota Lt. Governor Jack Dalrymple led trade mission.

**Canada:** Vermont Governor Jim Douglas led Council of State Governments trip.

## IGA on the Horizon

*Be sure to check this section each quarter for updates...*

### SEPTEMBER 2006

- 14 - 16 U.S. Conference of Mayors Fall Leadership Meeting, Santa Barbara, California
- 21 - 23 National League of Cities Annual Leadership Summit, Colorado Springs, Colorado

### OCTOBER 2006

- 5 - 9 National Council of State Legislatures Executive Committee Meeting, Jackson Hole, Wyoming

### NOVEMBER 2006

- 13 - 15 National League of Cities Brownfields 2006, Boston, Massachusetts
- 29 - Dec. 1 National Lieutenant Governors' Association Fall Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana
- 30 - Dec. 3 Council of State Governments Annual State Trends and Leadership Forum, Phoenix, Arizona

### DECEMBER 2006

- 5 - 8 National Council of State Legislatures Fall Forum, San Antonio, Texas
- 5 - 9 National League of Cities Congress of Cities and Exposition, Reno, Nevada

## What IGA Can Do for YOU...

### Liaison to U.S. foreign policy makers and subject matter experts:

- Coordinate meetings with Department experts in Washington or your community;
- Arrange special-issue briefings; and
- Create a forum in which your foreign policy views can be heard by senior Department officials.

### One Stop Service Center:

- Provide information on foreign policy, international trade, exchanges, and protocol issues;
- Engage the support of U.S. Embassies or Missions for official delegations' travel abroad; and
- Direct state and local officials to the appropriate Department office for international travel or foreign policy concerns.

### Information Requests

Contact us by phone, e-mail, or regular mail at:

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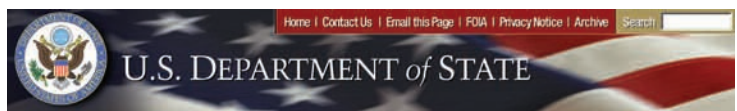
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